

Amendments to the Specification

On Page 1, before the section "Field of the Invention", please insert the following new heading and paragraph:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This patent application is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/990,768, filed on November 21, 2001, which claims the priority of GB 0028810.0, filed on November 25, 2000.

Delete the text starting below the heading "Summary of the Invention" starting on page 9 at line 2 through page 10, line 5, and in its place insert the new text below:

In one embodiment disclosed herein, in a method of voice communication concerning a local entity, upon a user approaching the local entity, a voice service associated with the entity but separately hosted, is activated and presents voice output to the user; and the voice service coordinates operation of functionality located at the local entity with said voice output by means of control data passed from the voice service to said functionality via user-carried equipment and a short-range wireless link between the equipment and said functionality.

In another embodiment disclosed herein, in a method of voice communication concerning a local entity, upon a user approaching the local entity, a beacon device located at the local entity passes

entity-related data over a short-range wireless link to user-carried equipment, the entity-related data comprising voice-service contact data identifying a voice service associated with the local entity but separately hosted, and parameter data indicative of a current state of the local entity; the voice-service contact data is used by the user-carried equipment to contact the voice service and pass it said parameter data; and the voice service presents voice output to the service, the parameter data being used by the voice service in determining its voice output.